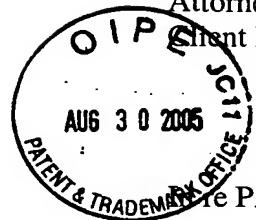


Attorney Docket: 008312-0305236
Client Reference: T7MK-02S1539-1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

THE PATENT APPLICATION of:

Confirmation Number: 9253

IWASAKI ET AL.

Application No.: 10/626,837

Group Art Unit: 1773

Filed: July 25, 2003

Examiner: BERNATZ, KEVIN M.

Title: PERPENDICULAR MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC
RECORDING/REPRODUCTION APPARATUS

August 30, 2005

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed together with a Request for Continued Examination of the above-captioned patent application. This Preliminary Amendment responds to the Final Office Action dated June 3, 2005, the date for response to which is September 3, 2005. Please amend the above-identified application as follows: